

William Dickson to Andrew Jackson, December 10, 1802, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

WILLIAM DICKSON¹ TO JACKSON.

¹ Representative in Congress from Tennessee 1801–1807.

Washington, December 10, 1802.

Dear Sir , On Tuesday the house of representatives formed a quorum, but from a deficiency of Senators no business is yet done, there being but twelve of that body present. A sufficient number is not expected until monday next.

I recd. yours by Col. Green, as to the Salt Spring on the Salem I shall not be able to write you any thing conclusive until the Senate shall have acted on the treaty which is yet in the secret department. I expect in the course of the ensuing week it will be laid before the senate, the contents of your letter respecting it shall have due and early attention.

The Port of Orleans being shut against the United States has excited a very considerable degree of agitation here. A courier has been dispatched to the executive of the Mississippi territory with some instructions respecting this open violation of the Treaty and it is presumed a speedy adjustment will take place. It will however be prudent for the exporters of our country to retain their produce until they receive official accots. of the prohibition being done away.

The popularity of the President continues to increase. But the Vice Prest. has lost irretrievably the confidence of the American People.

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The Author of Rights of Man, Common sense etc. is here. But that energy of mind and forcible language of which he was formerly possessed is gone, he is now in the sixty sixth year of his age, but the hardships sustained in the French Prisons have made him much older—he recives due attention from the Republicans.

Best respects to Mrs. Jackson.